

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District conducted a virtual and in person Board meeting on Tuesday, September 10, 2024. This meeting was recorded.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Dan Santia, Board President.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Santia.

Roll call by the secretary followed. Those Directors in attendance were:

Anitre' Bell (via video conference)

Carla Buxton
Daniel Caton
Victoria Gill
Anissa Klessner
Jeanette Miller
Bethany Pistorius
Daniel Santia

Members Absent
Lindsay Zupsic

Also in attendance were: Dr. Jeffrey Beltz, Superintendent, Deborah Engelman, Business Administrator; Nancy Barber, Secretary; Edward Katkich and Korri Kane, Principals; and visitors.

An Executive Session was held prior to the start of the meeting to discuss personnel. This announcement is being made to be in compliance with Act 84 of 1986, Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law, as amended.

MOTION #1

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Dan Caton, approved the agenda as written.

At this time, Dr. Beltz began his review of those items that would be voted on later in this meeting.

Education/Curriculum/Instruction: Mrs. Zupsic, Chair; Mrs. Klessner, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Agreement with the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit to provide ESL (English as a Second Language) for the 2024-2025 school year at a cost of \$110.00 per hour.
2. CeJae Peredina, a student from Geneva College, to complete his pre-student teaching field experience during the fall semester under the guidance of Mr. Keiper.

3. Trevor Keriotis, a student from Geneva College, to complete his pre-student teaching field experience during the fall semester under the guidance of Mr. Singletary.

Personnel: Mrs. Pistorius, Chair; Mrs. Buxton, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Employment of Tammy Celeste, transportation monitor, effective August 22, 2024.
2. Employment of William Allison, van driver, effective August 20, 2024.
3. Employment of Rachelle May, breakfast monitor at Independence Elementary School, at a stipend of \$6.50, effective September 11, 2024.
4. Employment of Melissa Pahel, substitute nurse, effective September 11, 2024, pending receipt of all clearances.

At this time, Dr. Beltz began his review of those items that would be voted on at the September 24, 2024 Business meeting.

At the beginning of each month the Board is presented enrollment numbers. Mrs. Miller noted that Margaret Ross only has 14 students in each of the kindergarten classrooms. She asked how it was determined which building a student will attend. Dr. Beltz stated that there are several factors that are considered, including location, class size, if a sibling already attends a particular school and special needs. Dr. Beltz said that the administration is currently satisfied with the distribution of students across its elementary schools.

Buildings and Grounds: Mr. Caton, Chair; Mrs. Miller, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Request of Hopewell Youth Boys Basketball to use Gym A and B at the Junior High School on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. beginning October 12, 2024 through March 8, 2025.
2. Request of Hopewell Youth Boys Basketball to use Gym A at the Junior High School, Monday through Friday from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. beginning October 14, 2024 through March 8, 2025.

Finance and Budget: Mrs. Zupsic, Chair; Mrs. Miller, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Proposal from Reschini Group to assist with employer reporting requirements under the Affordable Care Act in the amount of \$6.50 per required filing

Legislative: Jeanette Miller, Chair; Carla Buxton, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. PSBA Election of Officers:
 - a. Sabrina Backer, President
 - b. Matt Vannoy, Vice President
 - c. Kristy Bolte Western Zone Representative
2. PSBA Election of Insurance Trustees (Choose up to 3 Candidates)
 - a. Nathan Mains
 - b. Richard Frerichs
 - c. William LaCoff

Policy/Planning: Mrs. Klessner, Chair; Ms. Bell, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. First reading of the following Board policies relating to Local Board Procedures:
 - a. Policy 000 Board Policy/Procedure/Administrative Regulations;
 - b. Policy 001 Name Classification;
 - c. Policy 002 Authority and Powers;
 - d. Policy 003 Functions;
 - e. Policy 004 Membership;
 - f. Policy 005 Organization;
 - g. Policy 006 Meetings;
 - h. Policy 006.1 Attendance at Meetings via Electronic Communications;
 - i. Policy 007 Policy Manual Access; and
 - j. Policy 011 Principles for Governance and Leadership

VISITOR'S COMMENTS

Effective October 12, 2021, a maximum of thirty minutes total will be reserved during the Board meeting for community members who request to speak. At any time, the Board may allow additional time for the visitors portion of the Board meeting.

Whether the community member is participating virtually, or in-person, the community member will:

- State their name
- Have up to three minutes to make a statement and/or ask a question to the Board
- Only be able to speak once during the visitors portion of the board meeting
- Have their time begin when the individual begins to speak

It is recommended that community members wishing to speak during the visitors portion email the Board Secretary prior to the board meeting, however the online chat will be monitored during the visitors portion of the meeting for anyone wishing to speak.

A response may be given during the meeting, however, it is also possible that no response be provided during the Board meeting. The Board will instruct the Superintendent, the Business Administrator, and/or the Solicitor to either respond to the inquiry or do further research and report back to the Board and/or the resident. For any question that requires a response, the District will contact the individual directly to respond or will share responses at the following Board meeting.

No visitors wished to address the Board.

At this time, Mr. Santia returned to Education/Curriculum/Instruction

Educational/Curriculum/Instruction by Anissa Klessner, Co-Chair

MOTION #2

By Anissa Klessner, seconded by Jeanette Miller, approved the Agreement with the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit to provide ESL (English as a Second Language) for the 2024-2025 school year at a cost of \$110.00 per hour. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #3

By Anissa Klessner, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, approved CeJae Peredina, a student from Geneva College, to complete his pre-student teaching field experience during the fall semester under the guidance of Mr. Keiper. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #4

By Anissa Klessner, seconded by Victoria Gill, approved Trevor Keriotis, a student from Geneva College, to complete his pre-student teaching field experience during the fall semester under the guidance of Mr. Singletary. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Personnel by Bethany Pistorius, Chair

MOTION #5

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Victoria Gill, approved the employment of Tammy Celeste, transportation monitor, effective August 22, 2024. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #6

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Carla Buxton, approved the employment of William Allison, van driver, effective August 20, 2024. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #7

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Jeanette Miller, approved the employment of Rachelle May, breakfast monitor at Independence Elementary School, at a stipend of \$6.50, effective September 11, 2024. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #8

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Carla Buxton, approved the employment of Melissa Pahel, substitute nurse, effective September 11, 2024, pending receipt of all clearances. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Beltz reports that the Junior High School had a very successful open house. He said that this Thursday the elementary schools will have open house from 6:00 until 7:30 and that the High School open house will be held on September 19. He said that the homecoming parade is scheduled for September 26 and that sign-up information for the parade is on the District website. Dr. Beltz announced that Dan Engen from Draw Collective will attend the October 8th Board meeting to review District options pertaining to consolidation and building options. He said that the Board will vote on their choice on October 22. He said that for those that would like to review the information, it is on the website.

Upcoming Board Meetings

September 24, 2024, Regular Business Meeting, Central Administration Board Room

MOTION by Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Victoria Gill, that the meeting be adjourned. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Mr. Santia adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

Daniel Santia, Board President

Nancy Barber, Secretary